



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPDATE: PROJECT CEASEFIRE

PORTER PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Independence, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to illegally possessing four firearms. Today's conviction is part of Project Ceasefire, the district's ongoing anti-crime initiative.

Daniel W. Porter, 41, of Independence, Mo., pleaded guilty without a plea agreement before U.S. District Judge Otrrie D. Smith this afternoon to being a felon in possession of four firearms.

"Today's guilty plea is yet another example of how effective a tool Project Ceasefire is in prosecuting felons who illegally possess firearms," Graves said.

"Law enforcement officers in the metro remain focused on locating **Porter's** missing children," Graves said. "Anyone with information regarding that separate investigation is urged to contact the Independence, Mo., Police Department or call the TIPS Hotline at 474-TIPS."

By pleading guilty to the federal firearms violation, **Porter** admitted that he was in possession of a Smith and Wesson Sigma .30-caliber handgun, a Mossberg 410-gauge shotgun, a Smith and Wesson .40-caliber pistol and a Smith and Wesson .44-caliber revolver between May 28 and May 30, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for anyone who has been convicted of a felony to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Porter** has a 2004 criminal felony conviction for unlawful use of a weapon.

Porter was originally charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Aug. 13, 2004, in Kansas City.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Paul S. Becker. It was

investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

Project Ceasefire

Project Ceasefire, launched in October 1999, is a cooperative initiative by federal and local law enforcement and the Kansas City Crime Commission that targets for federal prosecution persons who unlawfully use or possess firearms.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow